



Using less. Doing more.

April 29, 2014

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Henry Waxman
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Upton and Representative Waxman:

The Alliance to Save Energy thanks you for your work to facilitate passage of H.R. 2689, the Energy Savings Through Public-Private Partnerships, and H.R. 4092, the Streamlining Energy Efficiency for Schools Act of 2014. We are encouraged that the Committee is working in a bipartisan way to move common sense energy efficiency legislation.

H.R. 2689 will help ensure that federal agencies are utilizing to the fullest extent possible all cost-effective measures for energy conservation. The federal government reaps energy and cost savings through performance contracting, such as Energy Savings Performance Contracts (ESPCs) and Utility Energy Service Contracts (UESCs). These projects save money by reducing the cost of energy and operations in federal buildings with no outlay of federal funds. These financing vehicles provide real savings without requiring appropriations for capital, and are particularly important now when government dollars are scarce. Efficiency projects financed through performance contracts are also incredible job creators, establishing 11,000 American jobs for every \$1 billion of investment. H.R. 2689 promotes transparency and accountability across the federal government and will further enable federal agencies to maximize their present energy efficiency contracting authorities. The legislation streamlines the statute, providing consistency and clarification within the existing ESPC law and supports the ability of federal agencies to leverage the private sector for energy savings without relying on appropriated funds.

H.R. 4092 would promote energy efficiency initiatives in our nation's schools. This common sense, no-cost legislation would streamline existing federal initiatives and establish the Department of Energy (DOE) as the lead agency in coordinating efforts to help initiate, develop, and finance energy projects for schools. Under this legislation, states, school boards, and local officials retain their autonomy about how best to meet their energy needs. However, the bill would require DOE to provide technical assistance to help schools navigate the existing federal programs and financing options available, alleviating burdens on school administrators by establishing an efficient one-stop shop for schools.

Again, the Alliance appreciates the work of you and your Committee, and we stand ready to support your efforts on these and other bi-partisan energy efficiency bills in any way we can.

Sincerely,

Kateri Callahan
President, Alliance to Save Energy

cc: Members of the Energy and Commerce Committee

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